

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 20 JANUARY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0947-1-01 (ACCNO 0429) Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: FORS, GARY HENRY Date Status assigned: 7 Jul 1980

| | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|----------|-------------------|------------|-------|
| Nationality | AMERICAN | Race | CAUCASIAN | Blood Chit | # |
| Service | MARINE CORPS | Sex | MALE | Blood type | A + |
| Grade | O3 | Hair | BROWN | Complexion | FAIR |
| SSAN | NAME | Eyes | GREY | Weapon | # |
| Serial No | 090870 | Height | 71 in / 1.80 mtrs | Weapon No | # |
| Birth date | 29 Apr 1941 | Weight | 189 lb / 85.6 kg | Duty pos | PILOT |
| Home State | WASHINGTON | Religion | PROTESTANT | PW Camp | \$ |

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

| | INCIDENT LOCATION (0) | LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Site Type: | CRASH SITE | SECONDARY SITE |
| UTM: | 48QYC080970 | 48QYC080969 |
| Lat/Long: | 161446N / 1065647E | 161443N / 1065647E |
| Country: | LAOS | |
| Military Region: | 4 | |
| Mission Province: | SALAVAN | |
| (formerly): | SARAVANE | |
| Mission District: | TA-OY | |
| Mission Date: | 22 Dec 1967 | |
| Mission Category: | 2 | |
| Local Analysis: | None. | Near populated area. |

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: May 93, Jun 92, Nov 89, Oct 89
Vessey Case: THREE
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (1) Out of the aircraft at the time of the crash

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Vehicle Type: F4B | Serial: 148388 |
| Crash Type: Enemy action | Engine Type: J79 |
| Call Sign: WHALE 47-1 | 1 Serial: # |
| Year: \$ | 2 Serial: # |

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 0947

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

6 January 1975

CAPTAIN GARY H. FORS, PILOT, AND 1LT GUY K. LASHLEE, RADAR INTERCEPT OFFICER, WERE ABOARD AN F4B AIRCRAFT ON A "STEEL TIGER" MISSION OVER LAOS ON 22 DECEMBER 1967. THE AIRCRAFT MADE TWO PASSES OVER A 37MM AAA SITE (YC 080 970) BUT WHILE MAKING THE THIRD BOMBING RUN, THE AIRCRAFT WAS HIT BY ENEMY GROUND FIRE AND WAS REPORTED ON FIRE. AFTER AN EXPLOSION, THE AIRCRAFT BEGAN TO ROLL AND YAW. WHILE PULLING OFF TARGET THE WINGMAN OBSERVED TWO PARACHUTES DEPLOY APPROXIMATELY 500 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND. (REF 1 & 2). LT LASHLEE LANDED APPROXIMATELY 50 METERS FROM THE CRASH SITE, YC 080 970, BUT DID NOT OBSERVE CAPT FORS IN THE CRASH SITE AREA.

NEITHER VISUAL NOR ELECTRONIC CONTACT WAS MADE WITH THE PILOT. LT LASHLEE WAS RESCUED AND TAKEN TO KHE SAHN BY A UH-1 HELICOPTER. (REF 3).

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. CAPT FORS IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

750106 - ANALYSIS OF AVAILABLE DOCUMENTATION INDICATES THAT SUFFICIENT INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE TO SUBSTANTIATE A CHANGE IN THE MIA STATUS OF CAPT FORS.

=== REFERENCES ===

6 January 1975

REFERENCES: <1>) STATEMENT OF 1LT LASHLEE. <2> PKT MIA RPT, DTD 2 JAN 68. <3> AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 230754Z DEC 93.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

20 September 1989

A CASE NARRATIVE PERTAINING TO CAPT FORS WAS PASSED BY JCRC TO THE VNOSMP DURING THE 28 - 30 AUGUST 1989 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

CASE: 0947

8 December 1989

DURING THE 29 - 30 OCT 89 MEETING IN HANOI, GEN VESSEY PASSED A NARRATIVE ON THIS CASE TO VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH.

DURING THE 1 - 3 NOV 89 MEETING IN VIENTIANE, LAOS, USDAS LAMBERTSON PASSED A NARRATIVE ON THIS CASE TO LPDR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

24 May 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 0947 WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VIETNAMESE AND LAO GOVERNMENTS DURING THE 6-7 MAY 1993 POW/MIA TRILATERAL TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

14 January 1994

ON 15 AND 16 DEC 93, IE1 INVESTIGATED CASE 0947 IN TA-OY DISTRICT, SALAVAN PROVINCE. ON 15 DEC, IE1 TRAVELLED TO A VILLAGE CLOSE TO THE RECORD LOSS COORDINATES. RESIDENTS THERE HAD NO INFORMATION CONCERNING AIRCRAFT CRASH SITES IN THE AREA. ON 16 DEC, IE1 RETURNED TO THE AREA AND TALKED WITH RESIDENTS OF FOUR VILLAGES SURROUNDING THE REPORTED CASE 0947 LOSS GRID. NONE OF THE VILLAGERS WERE AWARE OF A CRASH SITE IN THE AREA. THE TEAM THEN WALKED TO THE GRID COORDINATES AND CONDUCTED A GROUND SEARCH OVER AN AREA OF 200 BY 400 METERS AROUND THE LOSS COORDINATES. NO BIOLOGICAL OR MATERIAL EVIDENCE WAS FOUND. (REF 3)

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| Mission Province: | SALAVAN | |
| (formerly): | SARAVANE | |
| Mission District: | TA-OY | |
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